



# DIVISION OF FORESTRY

# NEWS LETTER

## STATE DEPT of NATURAL RESOURCES

SACRAMENTO, CALIFORNIA

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### NELSON REPORTS JUNE HIGHLIGHTS

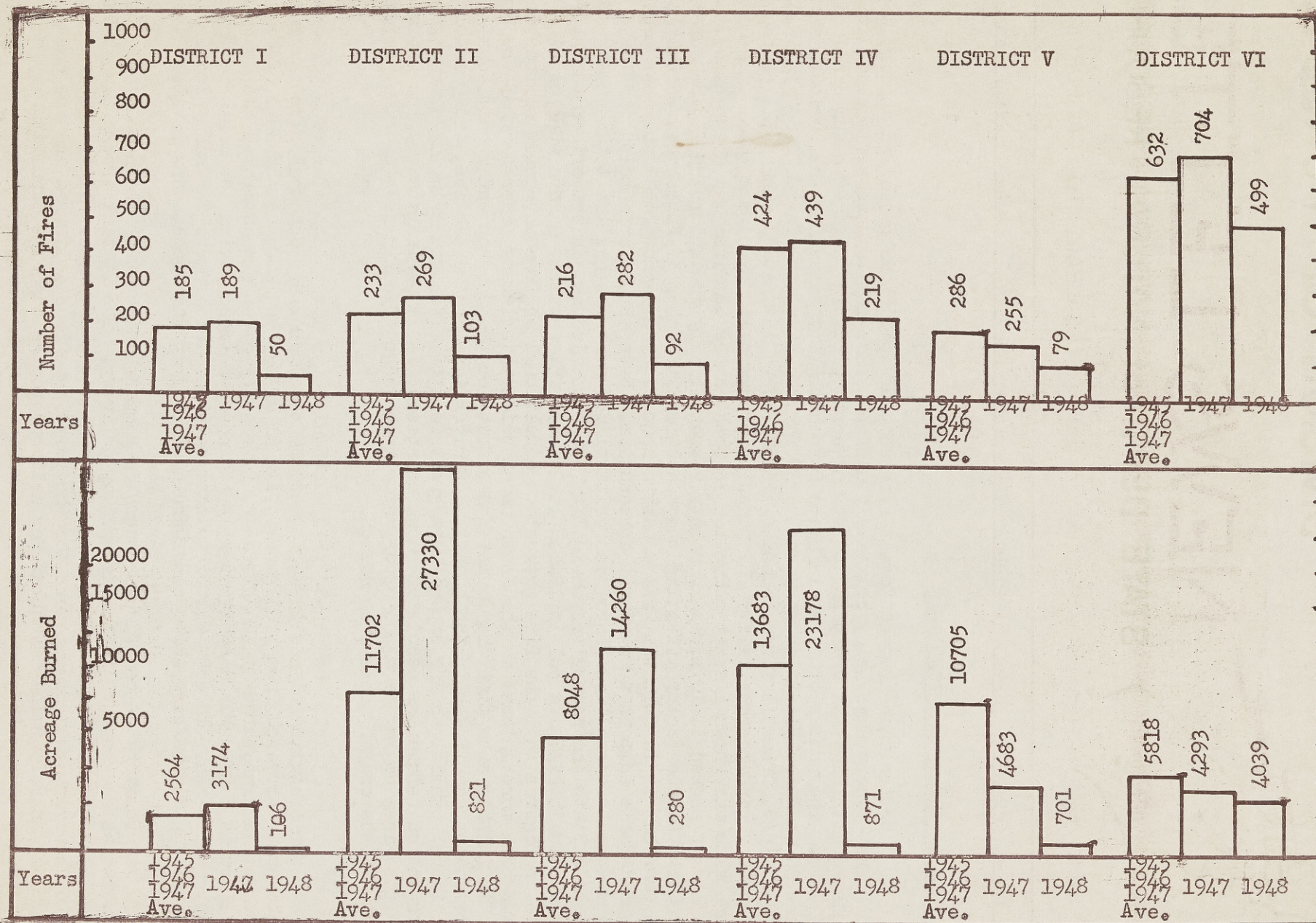
Better than average forest fire weather conditions prevailed during June with the first twenty days being relatively mild but changing to more serious conditions on June 20 with high temperatures and strong north winds in Sacramento and San Joaquin Valleys. The number of fires in State responsibility zones for the period January 1-June 30 numbered 315 in comparison to 730 for the same date in 1947, 667 in 1946, and 709 in 1945. The 315 fires burned over 2500 acres in State responsibility areas while in county zone responsibility 727 fires were controlled burning a total of 4300 acres. Here also was shown a great reduction in both number of fires and acres burned as 1947 same date showed 1,410 fires in county responsibility areas burning 21,486 acres. The greatest single factor affecting the reduction in number of fires most certainly was weather but it is felt that field hazard reduction and educational work has been of considerable help in effecting the reduction. Even in the area below the Tehachapi's where weather conditions have been critical for many months, the total number of fires in both State and county responsibility zones totaled 499 in comparison to 704 for the same date in 1947 and 561 in 1946. It is most interesting to note when quoting these latter figures that the fire prevention educational and hazard reduction programs have been more intense in the Southern district than in any other part of the State. It is in this area that the Division has fostered the development of citizens' fire prevention committees in the counties of Riverside, San Bernardino, and Orange. These citizens' committees are expending a great deal of effort in bringing a message of fire prevention before the people of these counties. It is anticipated by the Division that in this area we may have the opportunity to adjudge effectiveness of fire prevention work at the end of the summer season.

The Division continued this month with the activation of fire suppression crew stations with 201 now in action of the total of 218. Seasonal fire suppression labor was increased from 1,036 men on the 31 of May to 1,727 on the 30th of June. All lookouts administered by the Division of Forestry have been activated and tower men are now on duty. Field administrative forces continued during the month to train new suppression men. In some districts the training schools were centrally located for district-wide training while some were conducted at the ranger unit level.

Delivery of new fire suppression pumpers and crew trucks have been quite disappointing due to the difficulty of pump delivery. The 28 tank trucks have been completed but still await delivery and installation of pumps. It is encouraging to note, however, that some motors for the pumps have been delivered and are now at the firm of Van Felt being assembled for delivery to the concerns manufacturing the tank and crew trucks. At present writing manufacturers indicate that some tanks and crew trucks should be ready for delivery to the Division by the end of July or the first part of August. Difficulties are also being encountered with the Dodge Company who



COMPARATIVE RECORD OF \*FOREST FIRES 1945-1948 ON LANDS PROTECTED BY CALIFORNIA DIVISION OF FORESTRY  
JUNE 30 CUMULATIVE TOTAL FROM JANUARY 1



THIS SUMMARY IS COMPILED FROM 10-DAY FIRE RECORDS AND WILL BE AT VARIANCE WITH THE FINAL YEARLY SUMMARY COMPILED FROM INDIVIDUAL FIRE REPORTS.



were successful bidders on the 33 new pickup trucks necessary for the Associate Ranger position established as a part of the five-day week program. Again as in the case of the tank and crew trucks, Dodge indicates that if transmissions were available all 33 trucks could be delivered to the Division within a week's time but due to the lack of transmissions it is anticipated that a delay of from 30 to 60 days will result.

The 82 new FM mobile radio sets have been received from the manufacturer and should all be installed by the 15th of July. By that time the Division will have 153 mobile sets in operation throughout the State. 16 of the radio repeater units have been converted and are presently in operation. 9 new repeaters are expected from the manufacturer soon and it is hoped that these will be installed and in operation by the first week in August. 34 new FM land stations being produced by the Philco Corp. will, the company says, be out of the factory by June 30 and should be in Division hands and installed by the end of August. In the meantime antenna poles, lead-in cables, and other construction work is being accomplished prior to receipt of equipment.

More than 200 minor construction jobs under \$10,000 have been submitted to the Department of Architecture for approval. 44 of these projects are covered by minor construction funds and 164 are a part of the postwar program.

Construction work on Boucher Lookout on Palomar Mountain in San Diego County was started this month and by June 18 all steel work had been completed up to and including the catwalk of the lookout tower. Berryessa Lookout, completed last month, was formally dedicated during June by personnel of the Division of Forestry from Napa, Lake, and Sonoma Counties, District I, and Sacramento Office. Those in attendance at the ceremony included more than 35 local inhabitants interested in the part the lookout will play in fire protection. It is anticipated Mt. Jackson Lookout in Sonoma County will be dedicated in July.

Analysis of the 1948-49 budget has been completed by the fiscal section this month with completed information being sent to the field by July 1. It is interesting to note that this is the first time in many years that this task has been completed at this early date. District administrators now have complete information of budget breakdown at the start of the fiscal year.

The basis for a long-term coordinated training program for Division of Forestry personnel was inaugurated this month with the assignment of a man in the Fire Control Office to the task. His duties and responsibilities will include the development of the best possible program of training for the fire control group State-wide.

Two foresters meetings were held during the month. The Northern California Section of the Society of American Foresters met in Chester on the 5th and 6th of June and the Amador El Dorado Forum Society of American Foresters on June 19 in Placerville. Both meetings included field excursions.

Forest management problems of the Mt. Home Tract in Tulare County were discussed during the month by the Board of Forestry who met on the property on the 14th and 15th. Local citizens from the area interested in the development of the forest were present for the discussion. Surveys of the Boggs Mountain Tract of 3550 acres have been completed this month and will be presented to the State Board of Forestry at the July monthly meeting. Hampering the efforts of the Forest Manager's Office this month was the loss of his assistant who has taken a position with the Western Pine Association here in California. To date there has been no replacement made.



### WILLIAM S. ROSECRANS, CHAIRMAN OF THE STATE BOARD OF FORESTRY GIVEN HONORARY DEGREE

William S. Rosecrans, Chairman of the State Board of Forestry was given this month an honorary LLD Degree for outstanding public service to the State and Nation from Loyola University of Los Angeles. Mr. Rosecrans graduated from Loyola in 1908 and received his Masters Degree from the same institution in 1910. This is an honor well deserved by Mr. Rosecrans for his work in many fields of public service of which Forestry is outstanding.

Mr. Rosecrans is also Vice President of the U.S. Chamber of Commerce, President of the American Forestry Association and active in many other fields of public service.

### SAN FRANCISCO MEETING PLACE FOR BOARD OF FORESTRY

The July meeting of the California Board of Forestry will be held in San Francisco on Friday, July 23. The principle topic to be considered will be the recent surveys made by the Forest Manager's Office of the Boggs Mountain Tract of timber in Lake County aggregating some 3,550 acres. All indications at the present time point to the fact that this area would be entirely suitable as a State Forest. The County Board of Supervisors of Lake County has recently indicated their approval of the possible purchase by the State of this Area. It will be recalled that this condition must be met before the State can acquire land under the State Forest Act of 1945 as amended in 1947.

### GEORGE CRAIG ACCEPTS POSITION WITH WESTERN PINE ASSOCIATION

George Craig, Forest Technician and for the past eighteen months Assistant to the Forest Manager of the Division, has accepted this month the Forest Engineer position in Southern Oregon and California for the Western Pine Association. George's new duties commence July 1. Speaking for the Division your Editor wishes George the best of luck in his new job and expresses the loss to the Division of an extremely capable and competent man.

### 2-4-D SPRAYING DEMONSTRATION

From June 21 through June 25 the U.S. Office of Blister Rust Control conducted a series of experiments on spraying Ribes with 2-4-D solutions from a Helicopter. This work was carried on in the Sierra National Forest, using the Miami Blister Rust Control Camp near Wawona as headquarters.

Various interested persons not connected with the Bureau of Blister Rust Control had an opportunity to visit the camp and witness these experiments. It is understood that among the State Division of Forestry personnel who attended were Deputy State Forester Metcalf and Forest Technicians Schlobohm and Meyer.

Flying took place from about 6:30 a.m. to 12:00 or 1:00 o'clock in the afternoon, depending upon air stability conditions. The actual elevation from which the flights were made was between 5500 feet and 6000 feet above sea level, but due to ground heating, this represented an equivalent air density elevation of around 7800 feet for flying conditions near the surface of the ground. The pay load on the Helicopter varied between 10 and 20 gallons of 2-4D solution on each flight, and 5 gallons was said to give a single coverage to approximately 2 acres. The spray which got through to the ground was checked on certain test plots by using a red dye in the solution and by distributing large pieces of white filter paper on the ground in a systematic pattern below the brush. The amount of red spotting on the paper was used as an index of how much 2-4-D was penetrating the brush crowns in getting all the way



through. Due to the fact that the large horizontal rotating blade of the Helicopter moved 1,000,000 cubic feet of air downward per minute, a considerable amount of upswirl from the ground resulted and the underside of the foliage received some of the spray.

Spraying heights were between 20 and 50 feet elevation above the immediate terrain and slopes were from 100% upward. On each run a swath of around 60 feet was covered by the spray. The same ground was covered from one to 3 times with solutions which varied in concentration from 2 to 29 fluid ounces per 10 gallon quantity. Ground control was arranged by the use of signal flags, using a red one on the upper end of the flying strips and a white one at the lower end. The positions of the strips were carefully plotted on maps and marked on the ground in order to record their exact location for future reference.

On the first day of the experiment the solution was made with Diesel oil as the solvent and an "ester" was included which saponified and clogged the spray jets. After the first day water was used as a solvent and no difficulties from clogging resulted.

The ground cover was extremely brushy and included *Ribes nevadensis* in the ravines and *Ribes roezli* on the hillsides. It is not known what the effect of the 2-4-D will be on the several species of broadleaf plants generally, and in fact it will take from 3 months to a year to determine the effectiveness of the spraying on the two species of *Ribes* present on the area. Due to the steepness of the terrain, the density and size of the brush and the considerable amount of *Ribes* present, it was felt by the Blister Rust officials that if the kill on *Ribes* is as much as 80% the results will be economically positive from that standpoint. It is also estimated that effective flying heights range from 30 feet downward and that on a commercial basis around 20 acres can be treated by this method per hour of flying time.

The rental charge for the Helicopter for the purpose of this experiment was \$70.00 per hour, but Pete Slessinger of the Helicopter Service stated that that price was a little cheap for the type of flying that had to be done in this work. It was indeed most awesome to see the Helicopter fly toward the steep slopes and into canyons, pivot about and sweep downward, just grazing the oaks and the taller brush specimens, and at times fly in between and below the tops of the scattered conifers.

H. P. Meyer  
Forest Technician

#### FIRE-WEATHER ADVISORIES FOR LOGGERS

A forecast service for loggers in the North Coast region will be inaugurated this fire season. The San Francisco Forecast Center will prepare a logger's forecast each evening, including Saturdays, Sundays, and holidays for Del Norte, Humboldt, and Mendocino Counties and transmit same to Weather Bureau Office, Eureka along with the State forecast which is telegraphed to Eureka each evening. The material added to the State forecast will contain mention of winds and relative humidities. This forecast will be broadcast over radio station FIEM at 10:15 p.m. and 6:50 a.m., DST. A second forecast will be prepared for Napa, Lake, Sonoma, and Mendocino Counties and telephoned to Santa Rosa 4321 at approximately 7:45 p.m., DST. Santa Rosa will relay the forecast to radio station KSRO at Santa Rosa for later broadcast. The logger's forecast transmitted to Santa Rosa should contain mention of wind direction and velocity, weather, temperature, and relative humidity.

Ralph T. Hanna  
Western Fire-Weather Coordinator.



### THE PRAYER OF THE TREE

"I am the heat of your hearth on cold winter nights, the friendly shade screening you from the summer sun, and my fruits are refreshing draughts quenching your thirst as you journey on; I am the beam that holds your house, the board of your table, the bed on which you lie, and the timber that builds your boat; I am the handle of your hoe, the door of your homestead, the wood of your cradle, and the shell of your coffin; I am the bread of kindness and the flower of beauty; Ye who pass by, listen to my prayer, harm me not."

Portuguese quotation

From "The Sower", Mens Garden Club of  
Broome County, N.Y.

### ELDORADO-AMADOR FORESTERS MEET

The annual Spring field trip of the El Dorado-Amador Forest Forum was held Saturday June 19, 1948. There were approximately 100 in attendance including representatives from industry, State Forestry, U. S. Forest Service, University of California. Special guests included Don Waddell, Dean of the School of Forestry, University of Georgia, Rodolfo Yussem, Forest Service, San Luis, Argentine, and Bartolome Frontera, Forest Service, Spain. The tour started at the Raffles Hotel, Placerville, and went to the Placerville Lumber Company Plant at Smith Flats, where Earl James gave a very interesting talk on the manufacture and use of wood flour. Next stop was the El Dorado County headquarters station of the State Division of Forestry. There was on exhibit here, a mobile kitchen unit, fire trucks, radio car, heavy duty transportation truck and a fire prevention section. State Forester, Nelson, gave a brief resume of equipment acquisitions and needs. Next Farm Forester Bill Maguire held a pruning demonstration using 4 H boys and also showed the party a Christmas tree planting made by the Club. From here the party traveled to Fresh Pond where a planting of hybrid pines and non natives had been made by the Institute of Forest Genetics. At Fresh Pond the sawmill of the Placerville Lumber Company was visited and several features in sawmilling were explained by the mill boss. New ideas in resawing and ~~planting~~ have been developed here, and are working out quite well for the company.

Lunch was the next order of business and Harvey West, Owner of the Placerville Lumber Company proved to be a fine host. Forest Service risk cutting areas and pruning areas were next visited and the tour ended with a delicious dinner at Strawberry Lodge. Music and songs were furnished for this occasion by the Berry Brothers. It was the general opinion that this was a very worthwhile tour splendidly managed and conducted.

A. J. Hayes

Associate State Forest Ranger

### MOTION PICTURE HOUSES TO RUN FIRE PREVENTION TRAILERS

The California Fire Prevention Committee was successful this month in obtaining approval and support by the Motion Picture Theatre Chains of California to run from July through October a series of short, ten to fifteen second, fire prevention trailer shorts. The Conservation Association of Southern California is financing the preparation of two of the trailers and the Division of Forestry three. The trailers are being prepared in Hollywood by the firm, West Coast Products, who have assured the distribution of fifty prints to the theatres in California to be run for a period of from one to three weeks in each theatre in California during



the months July, August, September, and October. The first trailer was distributed to the theatre chains on July 1 and there will follow a new trailer to the theatres approximately in three weeks.

In order that we may obtain an idea as to the coverage your Editor would appreciate a note from those Division personnel who see a fire prevention trailer shown at any of the theatre houses over the State. Address your information to the State Forester's Office through channels indicating the theatre, the town, and the date of showing.

William H. Fairbank, Editor

### ABOUT THE DIVISION

#### FROM EL DORADO

Melvon L. Miller, former Assistant Ranger in Lassen County has been assigned to El Dorado County as Associate Ranger. Mel seems to think it's a little warm "down here".....wonder what he'll think along about September when it really warms up? Another new face in El Dorado is that of Assistant Ranger W. H. Thompson. Walt was formerly employed in Fresno County.

Radio Station K R V O has a new voice in the person of A. W. (Bill) Jones who hails from Santa Clara County and held the same position there. Bill, Mrs. Jones and son Tommy, are living in the newly constructed dispatcher's residence at Mt. Danaher.

We are also happy to welcome into the fold one Bill Maguire. Bill was Farm Forester for the U.S.F.S. until recently, when he transferred to the State in the same position. He can be found (occasionally) in his headquarters in Placerville, El Dorado County.

Mt. Danaher was the scene of much activity Saturday, June 19th, when the Amador-El Dorado Section of the Society of American Foresters made it a stop on their annual Spring field trip. Different types of transports, dozers, firetrucks, a compressor unit and rolling kitchen were on display outside, while the inside of the warehouse was devoted to radio, forest practice, and fire prevention. Among the 80 visitors, those from the GDF included State Forester Nelson, M. Pomponio, F. Dodson, Deputy Dunow, J. W. Tomblin, Raleigh Taylor, Don Bennetts, Jim Fenlon, Jim Hayes, Jerry Reinecker, Robert Carey, and Bill Maguire. Bob Orr of the Western Fire Equipment Company received many favorable comments from the crowd on his pneumatic flame throwers.

James L. Barnhart  
Assistant Ranger

#### SUDAN GRASS FOR FALL FORAGE

One of the ranchers in Madera County has combined fire prevention with the idea of getting additional Fall forage by planting sudan grass in his disced fire break. This grass is now just beginning to show above the ground and will provide a green band of forage during the height of the fire season. It is felt that this plan has considerable merit and should be passed on to other ranchers in the State, particularly in the hot drier localities.

Dean Schlobohm,  
Forest Technician



### TOOT TOOT!!—THEN IT HAPPENED

Ranger Arthur Moberg of Madera County predicts a stormy career for fire fighter Eugene Zule, 22, of Madera Headquarters if his first report of injury can be used as a barometer. It seems that Zule, deep in the Land of Nod, was in the midst of dreaming of cowboys and Indians and such things that enter the subconscious mind of an active young man, when suddenly a switch engine standing on a nearby siding gave a lusty toot on its whistle disturbing Zule's otherwise peaceful dream to the point that he thought he was being chased by an angry locomotive. Whereupon, he promptly jumped out of bed, tore the barracks window from its hinges, and dove through the screen to the ground below. Though Zule did not awaken until he was picked up by crew members and subsequently taken to a local hospital with a serious knee injury, rumor has it that his bunk mates were so startled by their rude awakening that it took Assistant Ranger Hickie twenty minutes to reassemble his crew. That is, of course, after Hickie climbed out from under the truck where he supposedly took refuge waiting for the dust to settle.

J. D. Rafferty  
Fire Prevention Officer

### MOUNTAIN HOME HISTORY - Chapter 3

Our readers will remember us mentioning the so-called Centennial Stump in the last issue. Whether the Centennial Stump is entitled to that name is difficult to determine. There is agreement that John McKiearnan, Ed Manley, and J. R. Hubbs cut this tree, hollowed out the base, cut the outside ring into slabs which were re-assembled and put together with iron bands. It was exhibited at various Valley places, San Francisco and is supposed to have reached the Centennial Exposition at Philadelphia. It was a commercial proposition, not a community exhibit.

The late Mrs. J. Brown of Porterville published a rather detailed story in a Porterville paper in 1923 outlining the history of the project. Financially it was a dismal failure. When exhibited in the East people thought it was a fake—parts of several trees bolted together. A picture taken in Porterville of what is supposed to be the Centennial exhibit shows a section only about seven feet high, though there may have been another layer that was not assembled for the picture as other versions say that 14 feet of the base of the tree was hollowed out.

This Centennial Stump is one of the attractions of Mountain Home Tract. Conflicting evidence is a story of the project which was published in a "Tulare County Register" of 18—and the date of the cutting of the tree is given as 1878 which is too late, of course, for the Centennial Exposition. A giant Sequoia was exhibited at the Fair in a sideshow. There is a stump at the General Grant Grove of the Kings Canyon National Park which is also called a Centennial. Apparently, there was no Porterville paper at that time for no file exists locally, but possibly a check of the Visalia Delta might reveal something to determine the date of this project.

The tree that wouldn't fall when completely cut off has been a source of wonder for years. It has been publicized in national publications and featured by Ripley's "Believe It Or Not". When the whole story is told it isn't so mysterious. This tree is a big dead Sequoia snag that might have been struck by lightning and lost its top. It is 60 or 80 feet high. It was sawed completely through, but because there was no top to help overbalance the trunk and because of insufficient undercut it was impossible to wedge it over. Oscar Van Deusen of Lindsay, W. N. Mitchel of Pinehurst, and Jack Dottie of Corcoran worked on the tree. As near as



we can ascertain the date it was around 1897.

To be Continued.

C. E. Metcalf  
Deputy State Forester

#### COMPETITION FOR SINATRA

Recently Ranger Britton was requested by the principal of the Campbell Union High School to speak on Forestry before the Senior students. Ranger Britton detailed our new Associate Ranger Gervice Nash to the job.

Along came the fateful day June 10, 1948, long to be remembered by our speaker Nature Boy Nash. The writer has on good authority, that after Associate Ranger was introduced to the class, he walked up to the front of the stage where there were considerable oh's and ah's and sighs from the female part of the audience. It is my understanding that our speaker did a slow burn in the best Edgar Kennedy fashion.

It is also the writer's understanding that the talk Mr. Nash gave was well received by all and considerable attention given by the ladies of the class. Well, I always said that Gervie really was a knock out in his new Eisenhower jacket. By all good reason this story should close, but for one incident and that is the pay line. After Mr. Nash slipped out of the rear door for cooler climate, and just as he was getting into his car, up went a window in the school house and out popped two blonde heads, girls' heads that is, a long sigh followed by a lingering "Goodbye Now"-----

Due to the writer being in good health at present, and wanting to stay that way, I must decline to sign the above story.

GUESS WHO?

#### MANPOWER - EDUCATION- CONSTRUCTION IMPROVES IN SAN BENITO COUNTY

Assistnat Ranger James W. "Bill" Reed was the proud pappy of a bouncing baby boy. Little James Robert Reed weighed in at 6 pounds nine and one-half ounces at the Hazel Hawkins Hospital at Hollister, June 4, 1948, at 10:09 A.M. This makes the second for Bill. One future firefighter and one firefighter's wife.

State Ranger "Les" H. Gum, Assistant Forest Technician John Dowdaken, and Fire Prevention Officer Mace Pewtherer, teamed up with State Forest Ranger John P. Wade to put on a program of motion pictures and talk regarding forestry as a profession and a possible college major, to the Hollister High School and Junior College, May 21, 1948. John "Bugsy" Dowdaken presented a very interesting talk and "Les" Gum showed pictures pretaining to the possibilities of Redwood as a structural material. All this was done under the intense scrutiny of Mace "Dick Tracy" Pewtherer who was over to act in his official capacity of Fire Prevention Officer.

Two new sites have been leased in San Benito County for ermanent Fire Control Camps. Most likely the projects will be started this summer. First camp to be worked on will be Bitterwater which is at present a tent camp. This camp will be located along San Benito River on Hernandez Valley road at Blue Jay Splash. Second camp will be the Pinnacles camp which at present is located at the Pinnacles National Monument



and housed in the C.C.C. barracks. The new site for this camp will be located in the north end of Bear Valley along State Highway #25. We will be looking forward to the completion of these camps.

John P. Wade  
State Forest Ranger

#### JUNE IN THE SUNNY SOUTH

District VI Headquarters has taken on the aspects of Convention Hall in Philadelphia with as many visiting Firemen as the Republicans have presidential nominations. District VI enjoys being hosts and it is always a treat to see a northerner.

On July 1 this office will welcome Douglas Glenn, Dispatcher into its fold. We will enjoy having Doug abroad.

The home is where the hat lies and Deputy Mace has a new hat rack. Our Deputy and his family have recently purchased and moved into their new home, in which they are extremely happy.

It appears as though Associate Ranger and Mrs. Jack Burke are soon to have an addition to their family, a potential firefighter Jack hopes. Mrs. Burke was honored with a shower on June 18 at which all the girls from District VI Headquarters and San Bernardino County Headquarters participated.

Our rota for San Bernardino County personnel once again holds the name of Dolores Sterett. Dolores has been on leave of absence due to illness since November, and we are lvery happy to have her back.

#### SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY

W. L. Jones and Robert Voss, Foremen from the Yucáipa and Headquarters stations, respectively, supplemented their regular training schedule by attending the San Bernardino National Forest Spring school held during the period of May 25 - 28 on the Los Flores Ranch in Summit Valley. Those in attendance included personnel from the U. S. Forest Service, State Forestry and Fire Districts. It proved to be a very successful effort covering several phases such as driver training, equipment maintenance, etc, concluding a fire control evolution demonstrated on an actual fire.

The school no doubt was another outstanding example of the ever increasing trend of mutual aid in all aspects of fire control faced by the fire service throughout California.

#### SAN DIEGO COUNTY GOES TO THE FAIR

With the opening date of the San Diego County Fair nigh upon us, Firefighter Wilson Fansher, Foreman Nick Pfister and Assistant Rangers Hastings and Schori have been scratching their heads over what to put in their exhibit, and where to find time and money to carry out their ideas. With a budget of no dollars and cents to work on, it has been a matter of individual ingenuity and good old "Service Scrouging" to get materials together. "Don't cut this!" and "Go easy on that" ring in their ears as they put to fair use materials that later are to be used around headquarters or outlying stations.

At present it is planned to fill the 36' x 12' booth with a display relating to the "Julian-Cuyamaca Insect Zone", a map of the County Assistant Ranger Districts



with all stations and lookouts shown; a model lookout with Osborne Fire Finder; a complete display of fire tools; some fire statistics from the 1947 fire season; and a model farm illustrating the "right and wrong" of rural hazard reduction. These will be interspersed with fire prevention posters and other data, and fire prevention material will be available for distribution to the public.

Slabs and edgings from the Fred Grand Sawmill at Julian provide the rustic motif in which the booth is constructed.

Although at this writing the booth is not entirely finished, all are working at it, and we hope that an opening day, June 25, we shall be in there selling the California Division of Forestry and fire prevention to the public.

John Hastings and Mike Schori  
Assistant Rangers

Something happened in our office  
Just the other day  
It certainly was funny  
Is the least that I can say.

Driver Holmes was calmly sitting  
In the office on a chair  
When a wood tick up and bit him  
And up he jumped into the air.

Such expression of amazement  
Its not every day you see,  
And he headed for the stairs  
Saying "I must have a flea".

Down he came in half an hour  
To report upon the bite  
Seems the tick would not come out  
Though he pulled with all his might.

Later on, up to the Doctor's  
Driver Holmes went with his tick  
And the Doctor cut the head out  
While it nearly made him sick.

So this warning here is issued  
To you all to have care,  
For you too may be bitten  
While sitting on a chair.

Grace Rockwell  
San Diego County

As you may have heard by now, San Diego County has four patrolmen. Thus far in the month we have been in operation, we have made quite a few public contacts and given fire prevention talks and burning permit hours at public meetings.

As far as we have gone, our fire prevention and public contacts have proven worthwhile. Also, we have been working with the ranchers in the field, helping them reduce their hazards before the fire season gets on its way. As the season progresses,



I believe the patrolmen will prove to be essential to the Assistant Ranger of each District, inasmuch as he will get to know the district and the public and can establish himself personally in the minds of the people.

As a patrolman, I can say from the contacts I have made that the public is very interested in knowing that the patrolman is out there to enforce the fire laws and to prevent as many fires as possible. In patrolling my district this year, I have noticed fire hazards that have existed for as long as two years and have never before been corrected. By noticing and taking action on such hazards immediately, we can prevent them ever becoming fires.

Patrolling the highways we have also noticed that there seems to be a larger number of people picnicking than ever before. The public seems to be choosing hazardous areas for their picnics and campfires for the simple reason that there is such a shortage of picnic grounds in this County. Keeping these campfires within reasonable limits will be a job in itself - especially over weekends. On this subject, I have a question - What can you do when you come up against a Spanish family and "No speaka da Engleesh"?????? I could have accepted the can of beer offered in a universal gesture, but in the line of duty, I had to decline.

We have four patrolmen districts: No. 1 covers Red Mountain and Valley Center areas and is patrolled by Raymond H. Banks, Foreman. No. 2 covers the Julian area and is patrolled by Foreman Philip W. Crosby. No. 3 covers the Campo area and the patrolman is Bill Seehorn, Foreman, and No. 4 covers Lyons Valley, Bratton Valley, Harbison Canyon, and Suncrest and is patrolled by Larry W. Ramsbacker, Foreman.

We have four nice new pieces of equipment - International 3/4 ton Express trucks, with 4 gallon a minute Bean Pumps, 600 lb. pressure and 100 gallon tanks. Before the fire season gets too well along, we should also have our radios installed. What the patrolman gets out of this will be up to the individual man. As far as the organization is concerned, "the sky's the limit".

Maybe this will let the rest of the State know how San Diego County is progressing and that we are doing our best to reduce the number of fires to a minimum. We will be able to give a much more comprehensive report on how these patrolmen are working out after the system has been in operation over a longer period of time.

Larry W. Ramsbacker  
Forest Firefighter Foreman  
San Diego County

Due to the unceasing efforts of State Ranger Joe Scherman, the people of Orange County and adjacent communities now have a new recreational area for playgrounds, picnicking and camping for many years to come.

Recently, the County Board of Supervisors accepted as a gift from the O'Neil Estate, owners of the Rancho Mission Viejo (formerly Rancho Santa Marguerita) a deed for two hundred sixty-eight acres for a Park site. It is located in the mountainous area of Orange County and is bordered for approximately two miles by the main Trabuco Canyon Highway. It is one of the most beautiful spots in the back country of Orange County embracing a portion of Live Oak Canyon and Trabuco Creek and is heavily populated with large dense live oaks and sycamore trees, making an ideal site. The value of the new Park has been estimated at over \$200,000.00. In recognition of the O'Neil's generous gift, the County Board of Supervisors has named the new recreational area O'Neil Park.



Ranger Scherman began work on this Park back in the CCC camp days of 1933-- a total of fifteen years work with officials of the large Rancho Mission Viejo always making progress with utmost cooperation, but was delayed from time to time due to change in management of the ranch four different times, then the death of an official of the ranch and the delay while settlement of the estate was pending. Then, during the war, part of the ranch was taken over by the U.S. Marine Corp. at Camp Pendleton in San Diego County and a bombing range was located on the Trabuco Mesa in Orange County. At times, it seemed as though there would be no end to obstacles, yet Ranger Scherman's interest never died -- he foresaw the many advantages toward fire prevention and the merits of this alone, was a winning point toward the securing of the Park. The Board of Supervisors were sold on this worthy project from the start and aided in every possible way throughout the entire time and prevailed upon Ranger Scherman to continue. Now, the public has a chance to enjoy some real recreation in the back country and when they go into this area, they will be concentrated into one area, which will be properly fire-proofed and will have proper supervision.

There is no other camp ground or park of any kind for miles around and with the many miles of paved roads in an area of this kind, a serious fire hazard problem has existed in the past over weekends and holidays with thousands of people from the metropolitan areas swarming to the mountains. Until now, they have had no place except along the roadsides to picnic or camp.

Recently some of the members of the Board of Supervisors have indicated their desire to establish a school camp for metropolitan children whereby such children would rotate through this school for two or three months at a time and would be taught wildlife and conservation. This is an added use, worthy of a great deal of merit which was not considered many years ago.

Our department also has been granted a site to establish our State Forestry Fire crew station at Trabuco on this Park. It will be necessary to move this station approximately one mile; however, the new permanent location will be a great improvement over the old site. The people of Orange and surrounding Counties have gained a new and valuable recreational area and Ranger Scherman has their thanks and the knowledge that his fifteen years of work has at last been rewarded.

E. F. Osterman  
Associate State Forest Ranger

#### KOLBE NAMED WESTERN PINE CHIEF FORESTER

Ernest L. Kolbe of Sacramento, veteran Pacific Coast Forester, has been named as Chief Forester of the Western Pine Association. S. F. Fullaway, Jr., Association Secretary-Manager, who made the announcement said he would succeed Stuart Moir.

Kolbe will assume his new duties July 1. For the past four years he has been district forest engineer for the Western Pine Association in southern Oregon and California.

Forestry Digest, June 1948

#### U. S. CHAMBER OF COMMERCE FOREST POLICY REGARDS SUSTAINED YIELD ESSENTIAL

The United States Chamber of Commerce at its 36th annual meeting in Washington in April adopted the following forestry policy:



## NATURAL RESOURCES

Coordinate responsibility. The Chamber regards the sustained yield of forest products as essential for the continued prosperity of the wood-using industries and the communities dependent thereon. It therefore favors the maintenance and improvement of the country's forest resources through coordination of responsibilities in the federal government, the states, and private owners.

The continuous improvement in forest practice, including selective cutting where practicable, should be brought about by demonstration and active educational work, stimulated by appropriate forest tax laws or by other inducements which make applied forestry economically possible.

Progress in private forestry depends upon a well-informed ownership and reasonable financial returns more than upon public regulatory laws, with the burdens and annoyances incident to them. The Tree Farm movement is a good illustration of how progress can be made under private initiative.

Forest Protection. In order to preserve this great natural resource, support should be given to properly organized efforts to reduce forest destruction by fire, insects and diseases.

Reforestation by planting. Production facilities of state forest nurseries should be expanded where necessary so that the production of forest tree seedlings for planting on idle lands for timber production purposes can be accelerated.

Research. Research is recognized as essential for the determination of the basic facts and principles on which the management of forests and the utilization of their products depend. The Chamber of Commerce of the United States, therefore, favors expansion of research by federal, state, and private agencies. In addition to basic research, emphasis should be on practical forest management which will demonstrate to the public that growing timber as a crop is not only a necessary but a profitable enterprise.

Forest acquisition. It is a sound national policy to retain the bulk of forest land in tax-paying private ownership. Only where submarginal lands cannot be economically maintained and satisfactorily managed in private ownership, should they be taken into public ownership — primarily by the states, and secondarily by the federal government.

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